



KONARK

TEMPLE TO THE SUN

Vol 833 | ₹70





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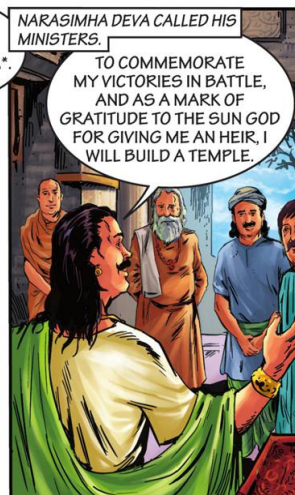
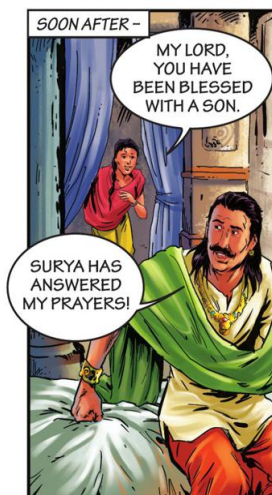
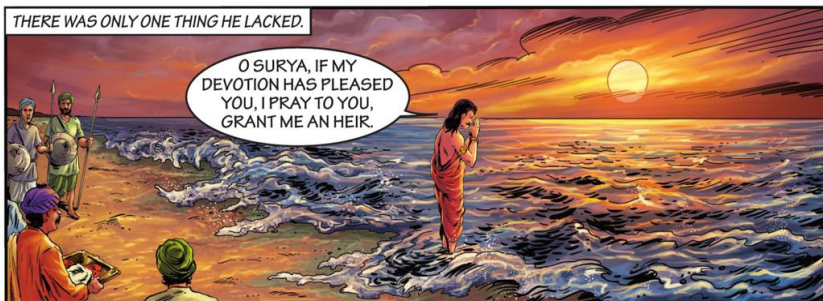
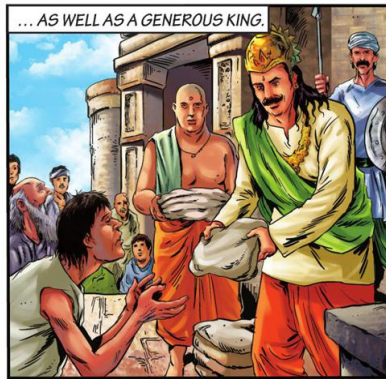
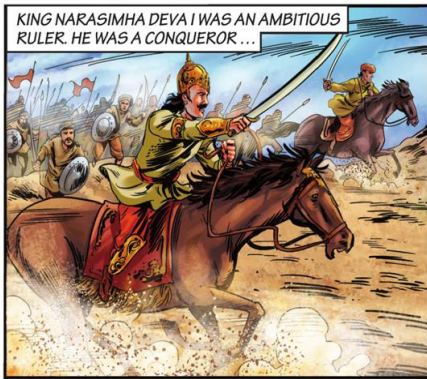
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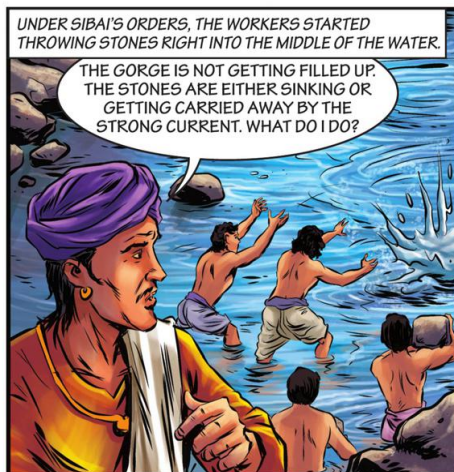
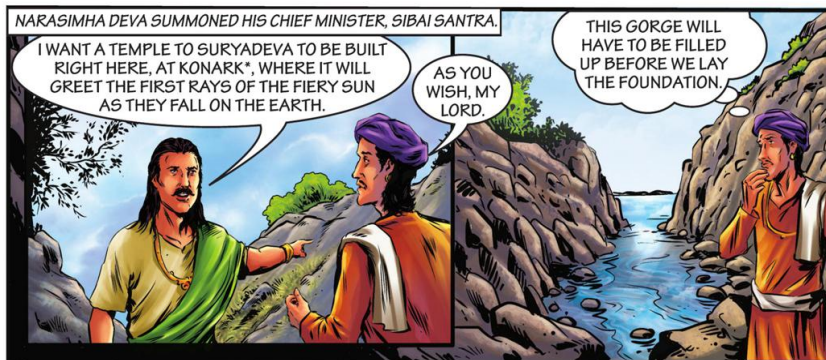
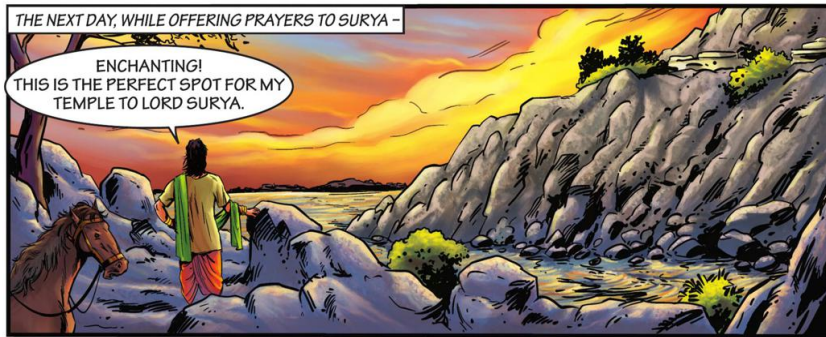
KONARK



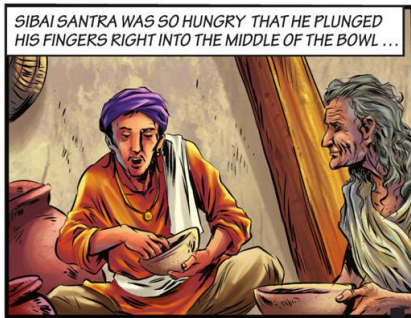
SHROUDED IN MYTH AND MYSTERY, THE SUN TEMPLE OF KONARK IS A MAGNIFICENT TRIBUTE TO THE ALL-PERVADING POWER OF THE SUN.
BUILT IN THE 13TH CENTURY BY THE GANGA KING, NARASIMHA DEVA I, THE TEMPLE HAS INNUMERABLE STORIES TO TELL - STORIES WHICH IT PRESERVES CAREFULLY IN ITS EXQUISITE CARVINGS.
THE MOST IMPORTANT STORY IS, OF COURSE, ABOUT HOW THE TEMPLE CAME TO BE BUILT.



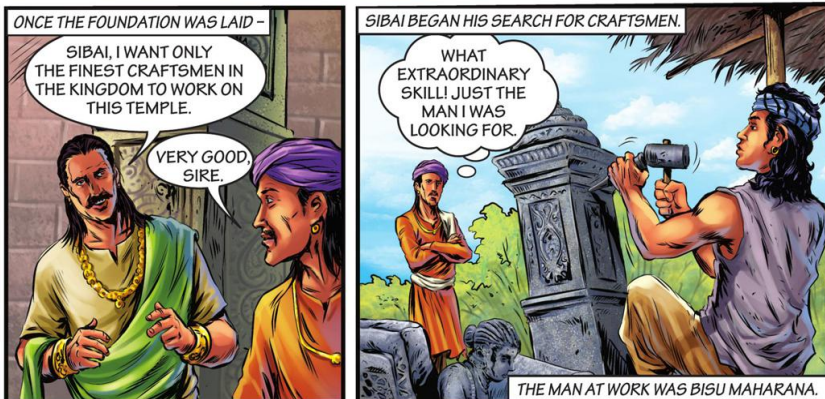
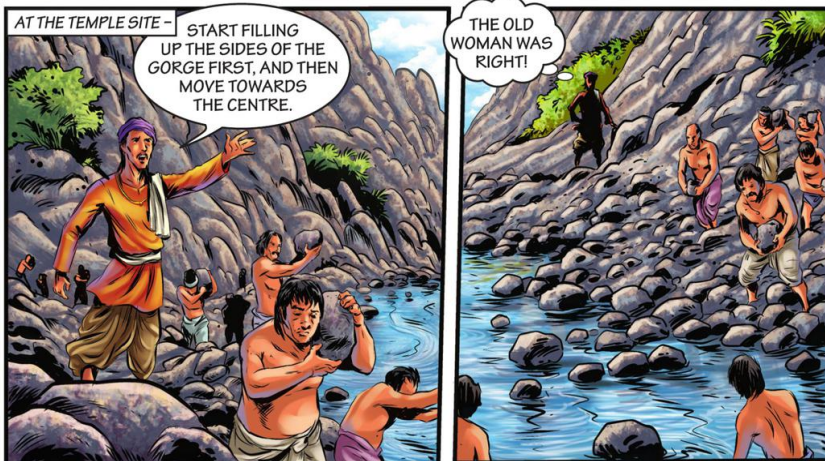
*ANOTHER NAME FOR THE SUN

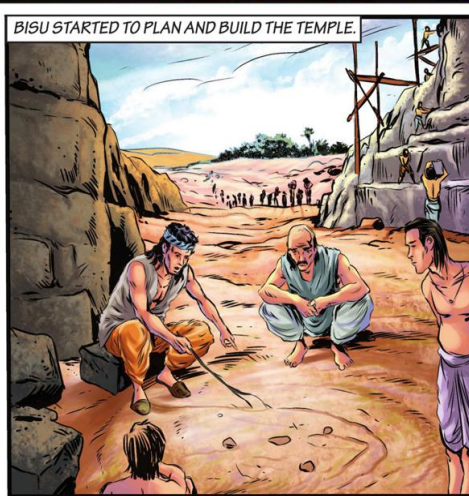
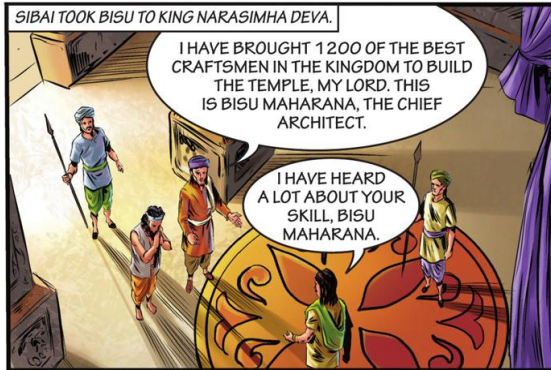
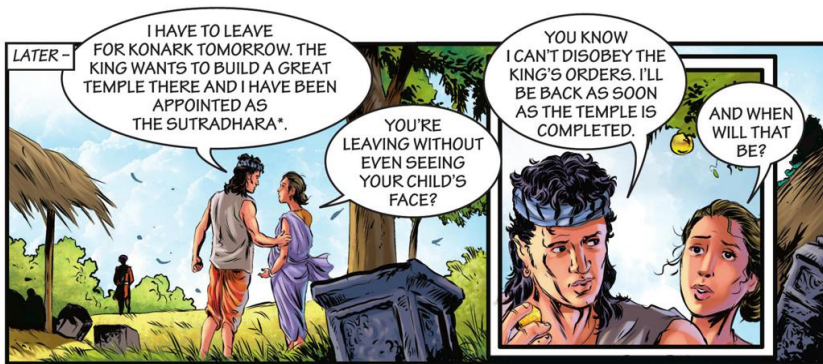


* KONARK MEANS 'CORNER OF THE SUN'.



* A THIN GRUEL





* CHIEF ARCHITECT

MEANWHILE, IN BISU'S HOME, HIS LITTLE SON WAS GROWING UP.



DHARMAPADA,
YOUR FOOD'S
GETTING COLD.

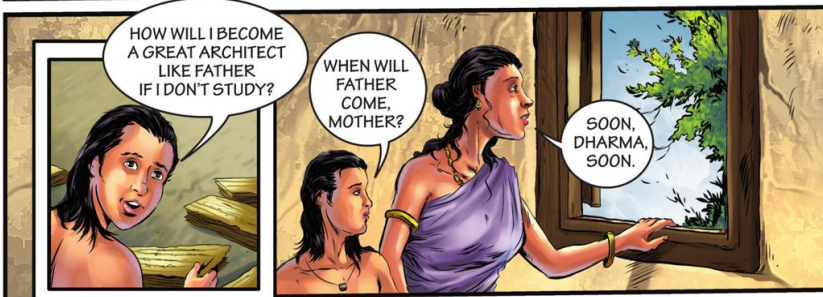
JUST A
MINUTE,
MOTHER.

BISU HAD LEFT BEHIND A HUGE COLLECTION OF
PALM LEAF MANUSCRIPTS ON ARCHITECTURE.



DHARMAPADA,
WHY DON'T YOU
GO OUT AND PLAY,
CHILD?

THE BOY
SPENDS ALL HIS
TIME READING
HIS FATHER'S OLD
MANUSCRIPTS.



HOW WILL I BECOME
A GREAT ARCHITECT
LIKE FATHER
IF I DON'T STUDY?

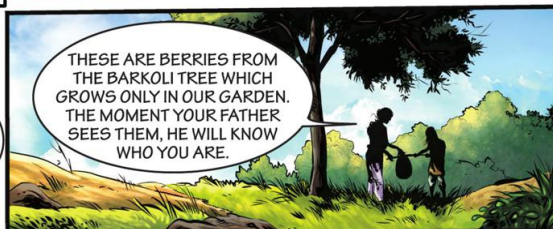
WHEN WILL
FATHER
COME,
MOTHER?

SOON,
DHARMA,
SOON.

YEARS WENT BY. WHEN
DHARMAPADA TURNED 12 -

MOTHER,
I CAN'T WAIT ANY
LONGER. I WANT TO
GO TO KONARK TO
MEET FATHER.

IF THAT IS
YOUR WISH,
I WON'T STOP
YOU.

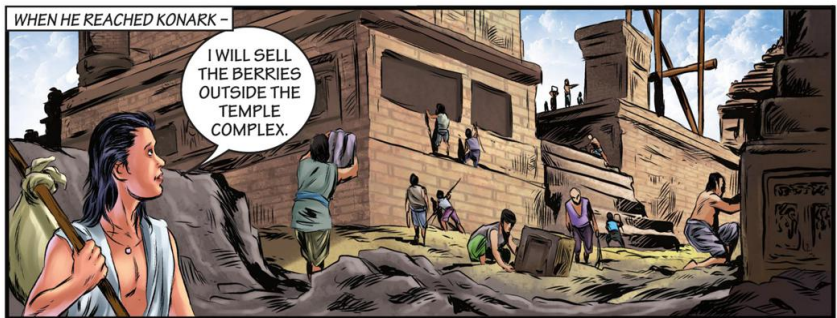


THESE ARE BERRIES FROM
THE BARKOLI TREE WHICH
GROWS ONLY IN OUR GARDEN.
THE MOMENT YOUR FATHER
SEES THEM, HE WILL KNOW
WHO YOU ARE.



DHARMAPADA SET OUT FOR KONARK.

FINALLY!
I WILL GET TO
SEE FATHER!

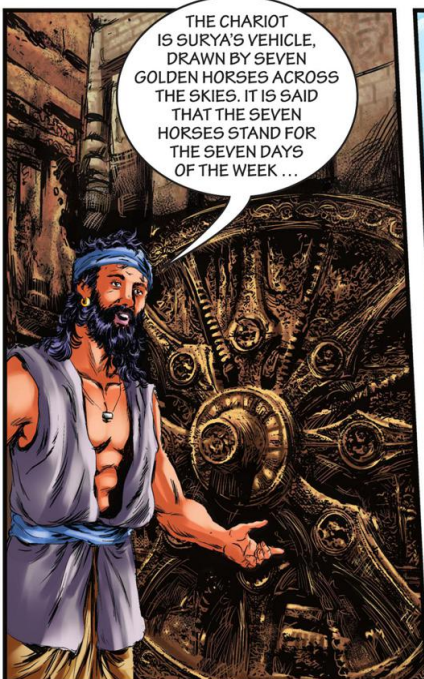


BISU TOOK HIS SON TO SEE THE TEMPLE HE WAS BUILDING.



IT IS...
WONDERFUL!

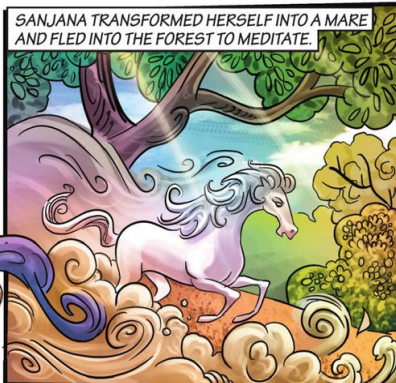
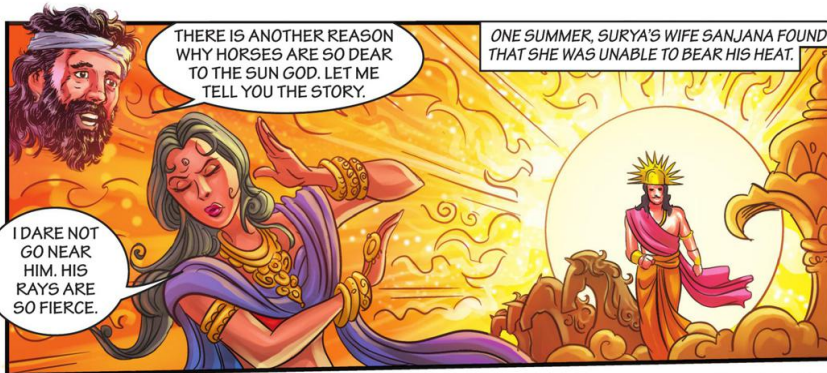
IT'S IN THE
FORM OF A
CHARIOT!

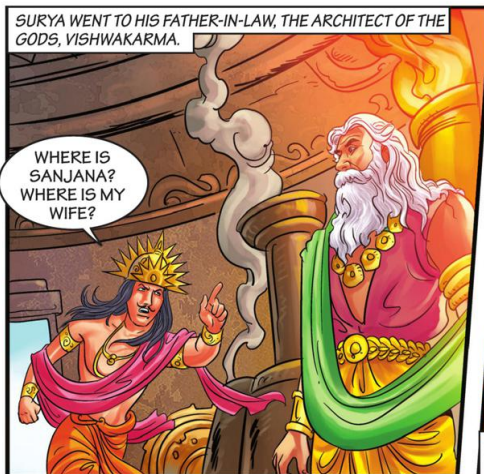
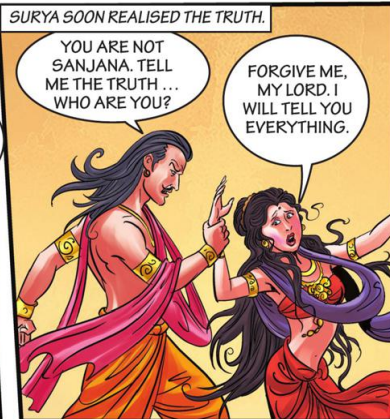
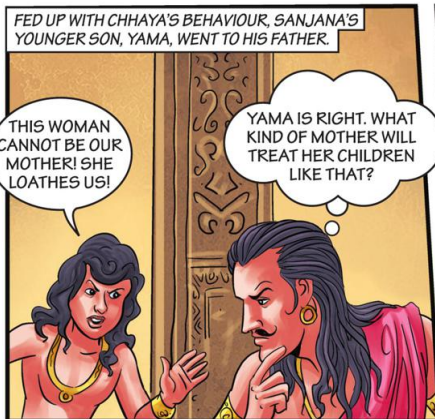
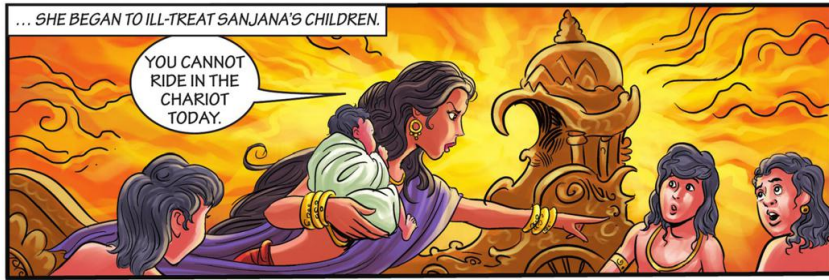


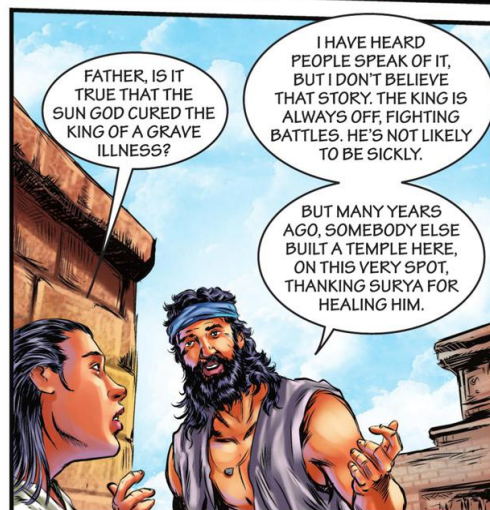
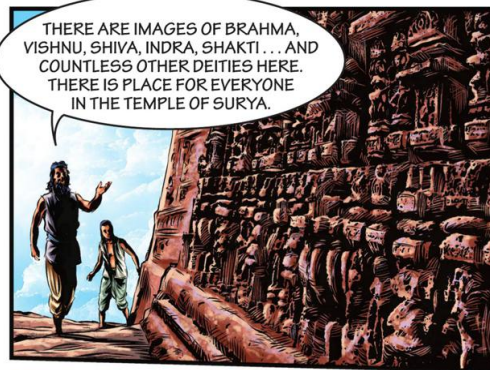
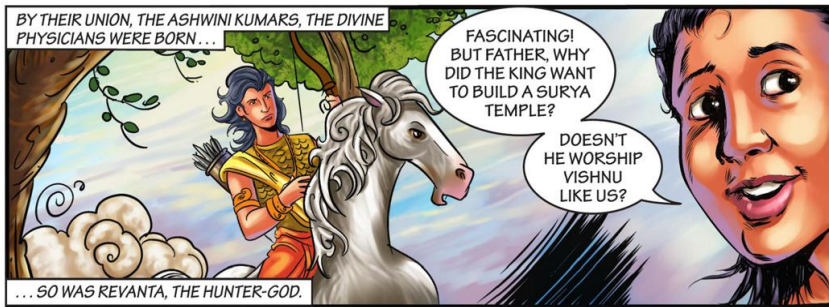
THE CHARIOT
IS SURYA'S VEHICLE,
DRAWN BY SEVEN
GOLDEN HORSES ACROSS
THE SKIES. IT IS SAID
THAT THE SEVEN
HORSES STAND FOR
THE SEVEN DAYS
OF THE WEEK ...



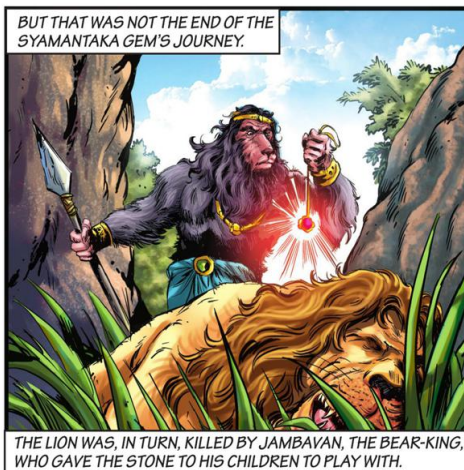
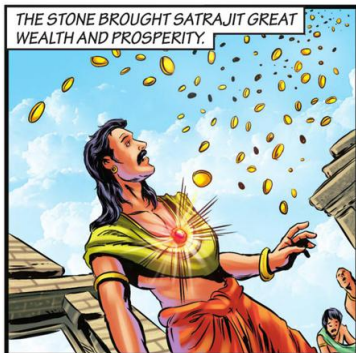
... OR THE
SEVEN
COLOURS OF
THE RAINBOW.



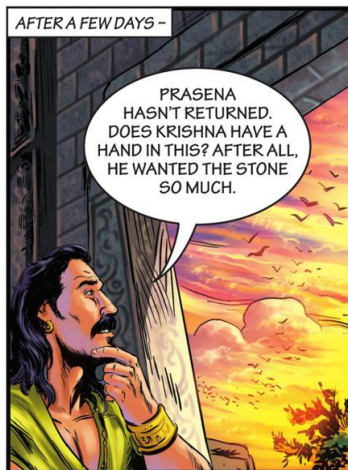


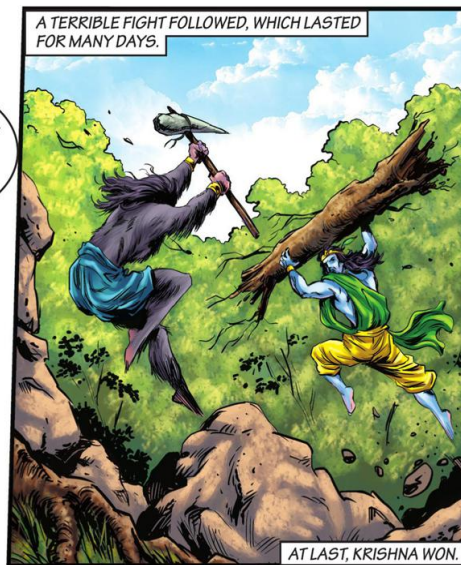
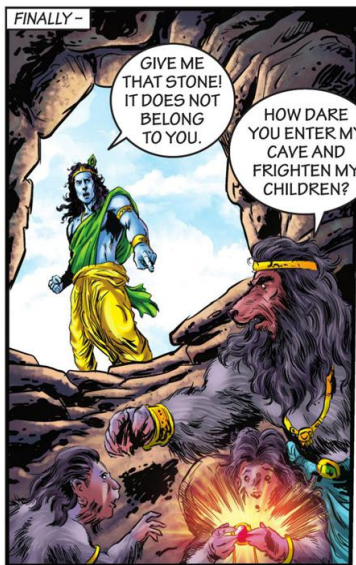


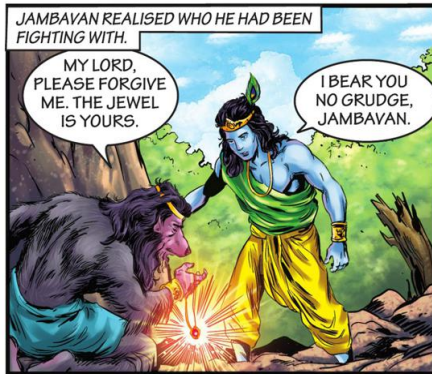




THE LION WAS, IN TURN, KILLED BY JAMBAVAN, THE BEAR-KING, WHO GAVE THE STONE TO HIS CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH.







THE FIRST MONTH OF THE PENANCE WAS PERFORMED WITH KRISHNA HOLDING A STAFF AND A SKULL.



THE SECOND MONTH OF PENANCE WAS DONE STANDING ON ONE LEG AND DRINKING ONLY WATER FOR SUSTENANCE.



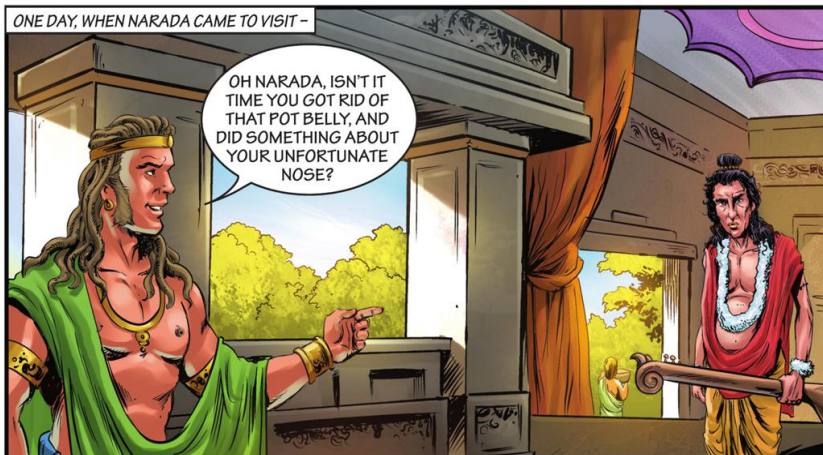
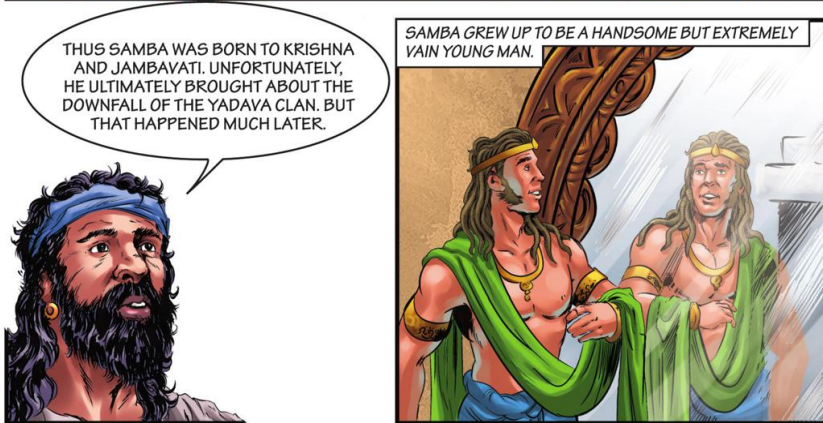
IN THE THIRD MONTH, HE STOOD ON HIS TOES AND REFRAINED FROM DRINKING EVEN WATER.

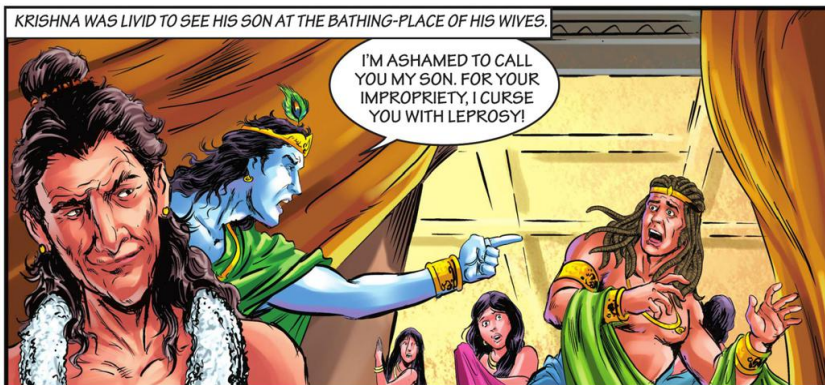
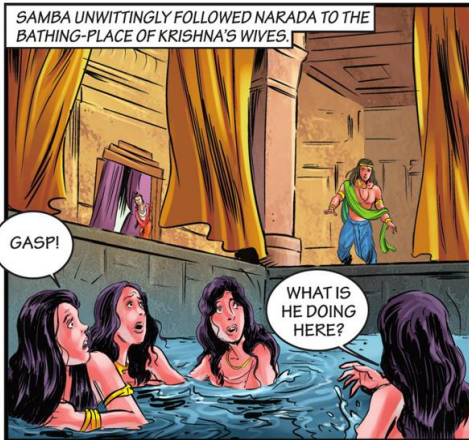
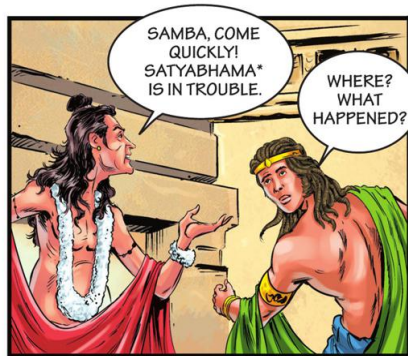
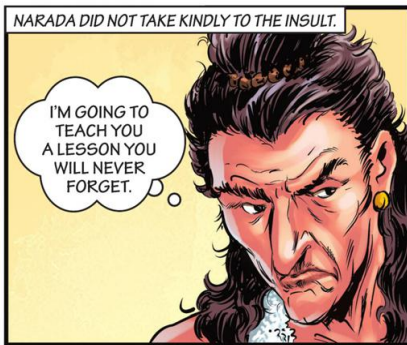


THIS CONTINUED FOR SIX MONTHS.

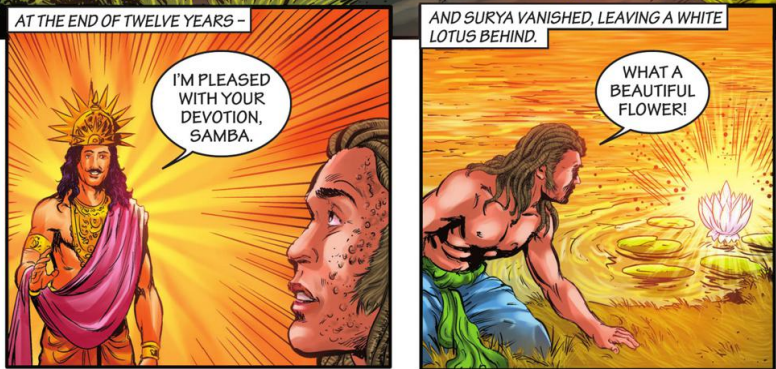
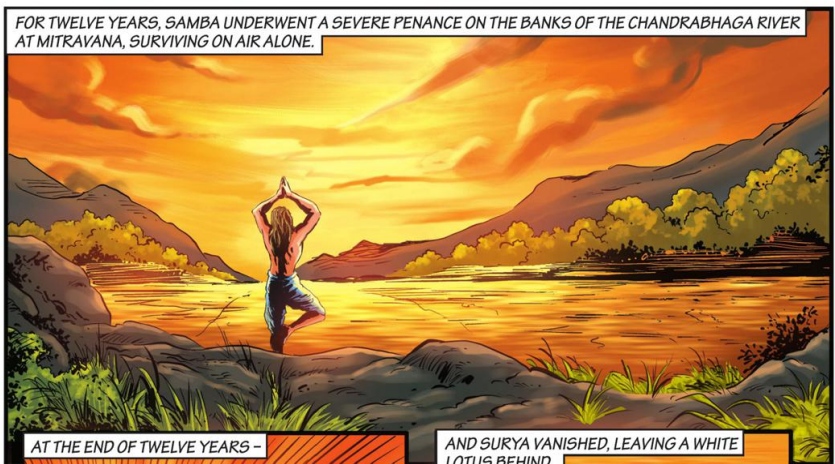
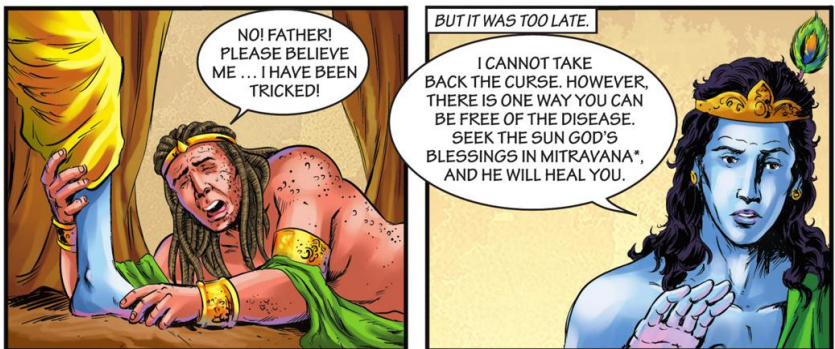
FINALLY, SHIVA APPEARED.



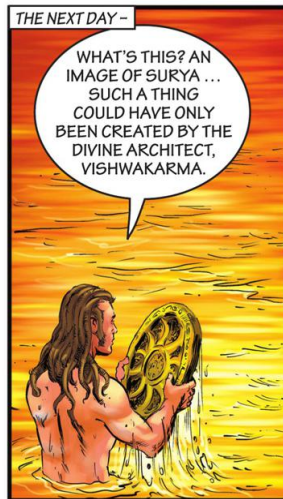




* ONE OF KRISHNA'S WIVES



* A PLACE AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE CHANDRABHAGA RIVER AND THE SEA IN KONARK





HIS PEOPLE ASSUMED THAT HE HAD BEEN KILLED AND SCoured THE ENTIRE PLACE FOR HIS BODY.



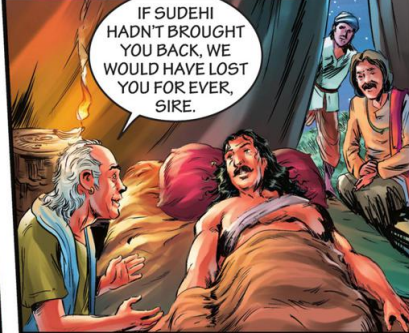
IN THE MEANTIME, HIS ELEPHANT SUDEHI LIFTED HIM UP ...



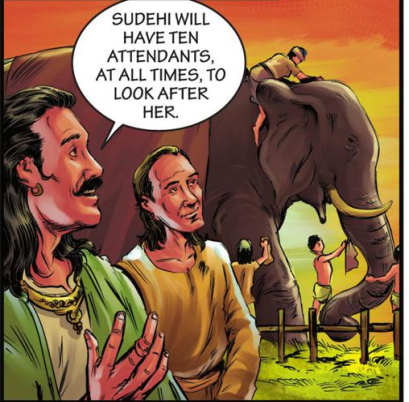
... AND CARRIED HIM SAFELY BACK TO HIS CAMP.



WHEN HE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS -



AS SOON AS THE KING RECOVERED -



HE ALSO ASKED THE CRAFTSMEN TO MAKE A STONE IMAGE OF THE ELEPHANT IN THE TEMPLE.

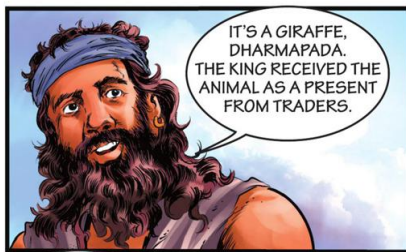




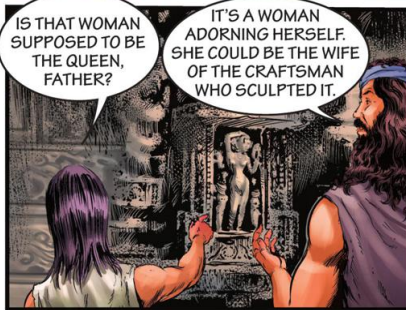
BUT WHAT IS THIS ANIMAL FATHER?



IT HAS SUCH A LONG NECK. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE.

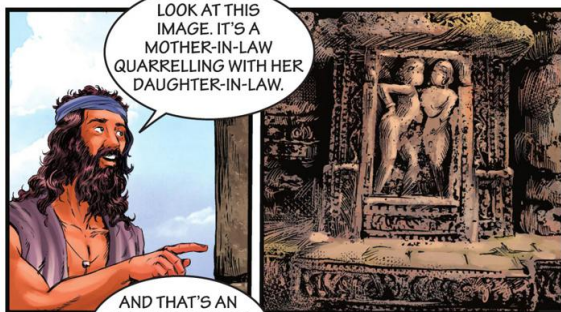


IT'S A GIRAFFE, DHARMAPADA. THE KING RECEIVED THE ANIMAL AS A PRESENT FROM TRADERS.



IS THAT WOMAN SUPPOSED TO BE THE QUEEN, FATHER?

IT'S A WOMAN ADORNING HERSELF. SHE COULD BE THE WIFE OF THE CRAFTSMAN WHO SCULPTED IT.



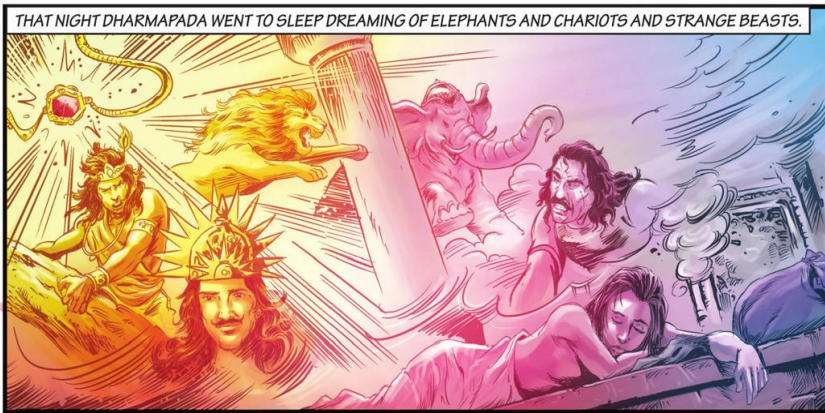
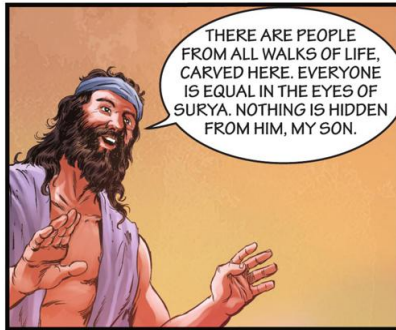
LOOK AT THIS IMAGE. IT'S A MOTHER-IN-LAW QUARRELLING WITH HER DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.

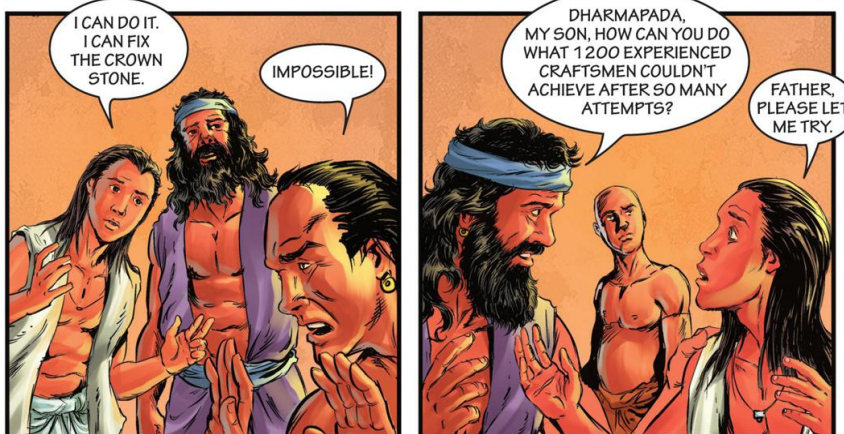
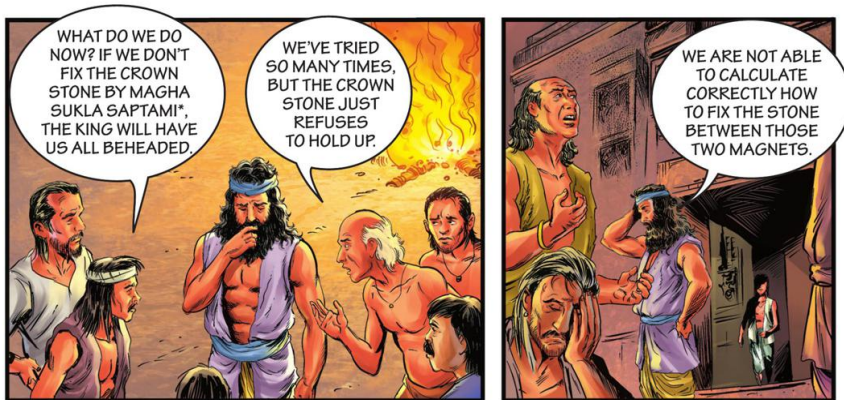


BUT GRANDMOTHER DOESN'T FIGHT WITH MOTHER LIKE THAT.

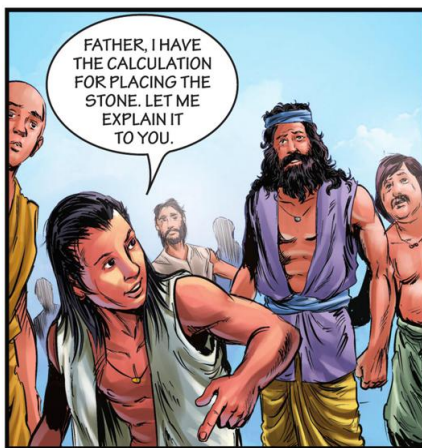
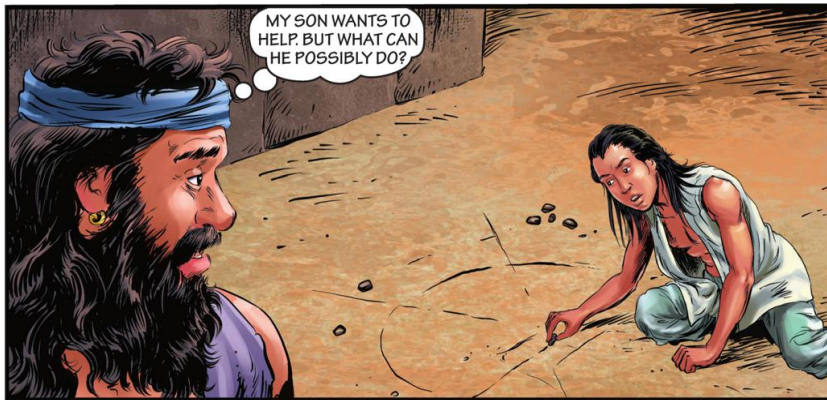
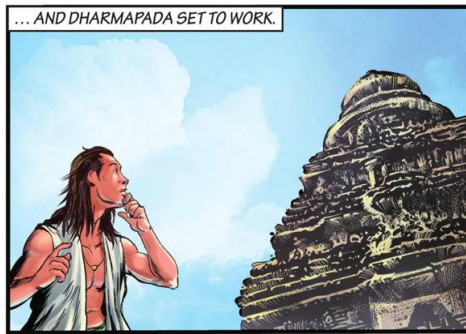


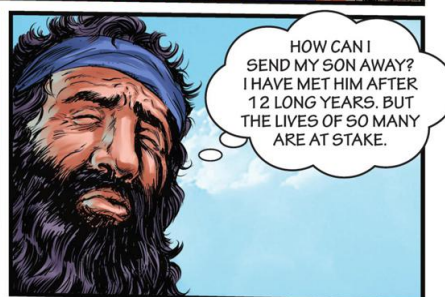
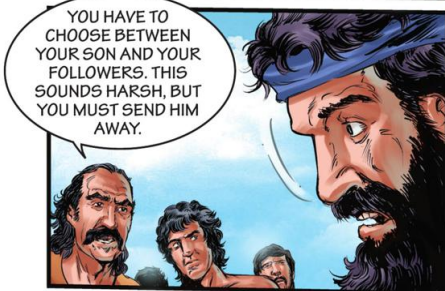
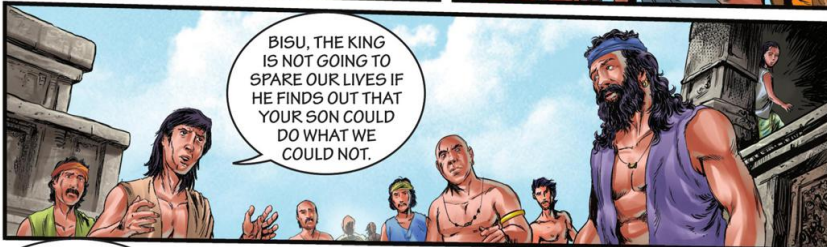
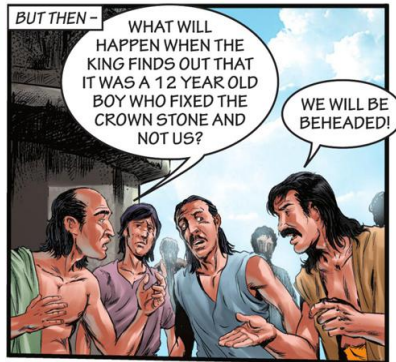
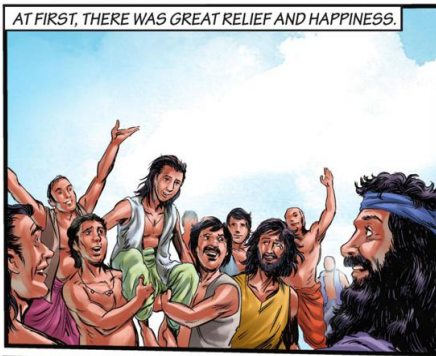
AND THAT'S AN OLD MAN LEAVING HIS HOUSE ... ON A PILGRIMAGE, PERHAPS?



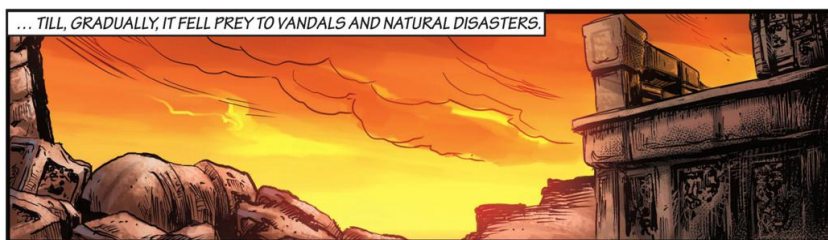
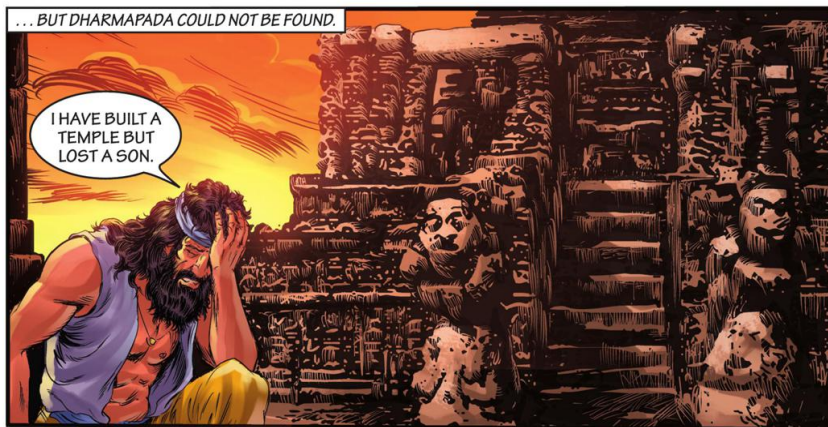


* A DAY DEDICATED TO THE SUN GOD









EPICS & MYTHOLOGY

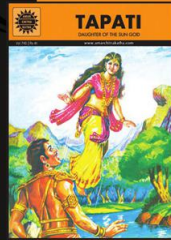
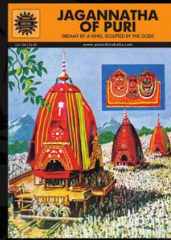
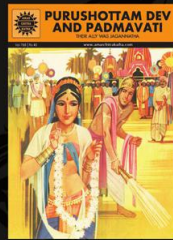
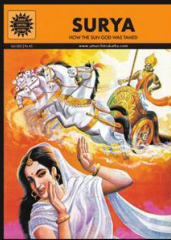
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As dawn breaks, Surya the Sun God, leaps over the horizon in his chariot, pulled by seven radiant horses. As he rises into the sky he spreads light and warmth all over the world.

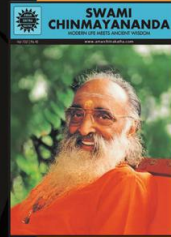
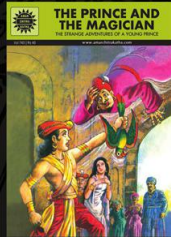
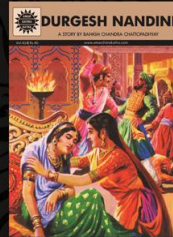
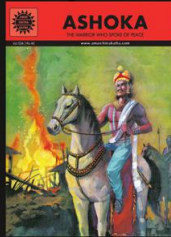
The great Ganga king, Narasimha Rao, commissioned 1200 artisans to recreate this scene in stone.

The Konark Sun Temple is a place where the lines between fact, fiction and folklore have blurred over time. Amar Chitra Katha interweaves the history of the 13th century monument with some of the mythology associated with it.

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